IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of	Docket No: Q63086
Takumi HASEGAWA	
Appln. No.: 09/781,253	Group Art Unit: 2128
Confirmation No.: 8082	Examiner: Herng Der DAY
Filed: February 13, 2001	

For: USER'S REQUEST REFLECTING DESIGN SYSTEM AND METHOD THEREOF

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 WITH
STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 12, 2007, please amend the above-

identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended):   A user's request reflecting design system for timely and accurately reflecting users' requests on a product, comprising:

design data publicizing means for publicizing design data to users through a computer network;

correction data receiving means for receiving and storing correction data as said design data corrected by a user through said computer network; and

design assisting means for reflecting said correction data received by said correction data receiving means on product design,

wherein said design data publicizing means includes

public design data prepared in advance to be publicized among said design data,

an editing program file for editing said public design data, and

a design data publicizing processing unit responsive to a request from a terminal connected to said computer network for transferring said public design data and said editing program file to said terminal, and

wherein said correction data receiving means includes

a data base for registering said correction data, and

a received ~~mail~~ submission processing unit for receiving an electronic submission ~~mail~~

associated with a specific user to which said correction data and additional personal information

of the specific user is attached and registering and storing said correction data in said data base,

said received ~~mail~~ submission processing unit classifying said attached correction data

based on ~~an attribute of the user~~ the additional personal information of the specific user recited in

said received electronic ~~mail~~ submission and registering said correction data in said data base

based on the classification results.

2. (original):   The user's request reflecting design system as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said design data is three-dimensional data.

3. (canceled).

4. (previously presented):   The user's request reflecting design system as set forth in

claim 1, wherein said editing program file enables editing of three-dimensional data.

5.-8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended):   A user's request reflecting design system for timely and

accurately reflecting users' requests on a product, comprising:

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design data publicizing means for publicizing design data to users through a computer network;

correction data receiving means for receiving and storing correction data as said design data corrected by a user through said computer network; and

design assisting means for reflecting said correction data received by said correction data receiving means on product design,

wherein said design data publicizing means includes

public design data prepared in advance to be publicized among said design data,

an editing program file for editing said public design data, and

a design data publicizing processing unit responsive to a request from a terminal connected to said computer network for transferring said public design data and said editing program file to said terminal, and

~~wherein said design data publicizing processing unit includes~~<u>wherein the terminal</u> <u>includes</u>

<u>an</u> information entry selecting means allowing a user to ~~select~~ either<u>,</u> <u>enter design</u> information <u>without downloading public design data,</u> ~~entry in the form of a menu~~ or <u>request</u> transfer of said public design data <u>from the design data publicizing processing unit to the user</u> <u>together with</u> ~~and~~ an editing program file.

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10. (currently amended):   The user's request reflecting design system as set forth in

claim 1, wherein

said correction data receiving means further includes

a data base for registering said correction data, and

a received ~~mail~~ submission processing unit for receiving an electronic ~~mail~~ submission to

which said correction data is attached and registering and storing said correction data in said data

base, and

in creation of said design data by said design assisting means, said correction data

registered in said data base is used.

11. (currently amended):   A user's request reflecting design method of timely and

accurately reflecting users' requests on a product, comprising the steps of:

publicizing design data to users through a computer network;

receiving correction data as said design data corrected by a user through said computer

network; and

reflecting said correction data received on product design,

wherein said design data publicizing step includes the step of

in response to a request from a terminal connected to said computer network, transferring

public design data prepared in advance to be publicized among said design data and an editing

program file for editing said public design data to said terminal, and

wherein said correction data receiving step including the steps of

receiving an electronic ~~mail~~ <u>submission</u> <u>associated with a specific user</u> to which said

correction data <u>and additional personal information of the specific user</u> is attached, and

classifying said <u>attached</u> correction data ~~attached~~ <u>based on the additional personal</u>

<u>information of the specific user recited in said received electronic submission</u> and registering

said correction data in a data base based on <u>the classification results.</u> ~~personal information of a~~

~~user recited in said electronic mail.~~

12.-16. (canceled).

17. (currently amended):   A server of a user's request reflecting design system for

timely and accurately reflecting users' requests on a product, comprising:

design data publicizing means for publicizing design data to users through a computer

network; and

correction data receiving means for receiving correction data as said design data

corrected by a user through said computer network and storing said correction data so as to be

usable by design assisting means for reflecting said correction data on product design,

wherein said design data publicizing means includes

public design data prepared in advance to be publicized among said design data,

an editing program file for editing said public design data, and

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a design data publicizing processing unit responsive to a request from a terminal connected to said computer network for transferring said public design data and said editing program file to said terminal; and

wherein said correction data receiving means includes

a data base for registering said correction data, and

a received ~~mail~~ submission processing unit for receiving an electronic ~~mail~~ submission associated with a specific user to which said correction data is attached and registering and storing said correction data in said data base,

said received ~~mail~~ submission processing unit classifying said attached correction data ~~attached~~ based on said additional personal information of the specific user recited in the received electronic submission and registering said correction data in said data base based on the classification results. ~~on personal information of a user recited in said electronic mail.~~

18.-22. (canceled).

23. (currently amended):   A server of a user's request reflecting design system for timely and accurately reflecting users' requests on a product, comprising:

design data publicizing means for publicizing design data to users through a computer network; and

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correction data receiving means for receiving correction data as said design data

corrected by a user through said computer network and storing said correction data so as to be

usable by design assisting means for reflecting said correction data on product design,

wherein said design data publicizing means includes

public design data prepared in advance to be publicized among said design data,

an editing program file for editing said public design data; and

a design data publicizing processing unit responsive to a request from a terminal

connected to said computer network for transferring said public design data and said editing

program file to said terminal,

~~wherein said design data publicizing processing unit includes~~wherein the terminal

includes

an information entry selecting means allowing a user to ~~select~~ either, enter design

information without downloading public design data, ~~entry in the form of a menu~~ or request

transfer of said public design data from the design data publicizing processing unit to the user

together with ~~and~~ an editing program file.

24.-26. (canceled).

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27. (currently amended):   The user's request reflecting design system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said ~~attributes~~ additional personal information of the specific user matches categories, wherein said categories are common to a group of users.

28. (currently amended):   The user's request reflecting design system as set forth in claim 27~~1~~, wherein said correction data is classified according to at least two ~~attributes~~categories.

29. (currently amended):   The user's request reflecting design method as set forth in claim 11, wherein said additional personal information of the specific user matches categories, wherein said categories are common to a group of users.

30. (new):   The user's request reflecting design method as set forth in claim 11, further comprising the step of searching the correction data based upon classified additional personal information.

31. (new):   The server of a user's request reflecting design system as set forth in claim 17, wherein said additional personal information of the specific user matches categories, wherein said categories are common to a group of users.

32. (new):   The user's request reflecting system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the electronic submission is electronic mail.

33. (new):   The user's request reflecting design method as set forth in claim 11, wherein the electronic submission is electronic mail.

34. (new):   The server of a user's request reflecting design system as set forth in claim 17, wherein the electronic submission is electronic mail.

35. (new):   The user's request reflecting system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the additional personal information of the specific user is age, sex and residence of the specific user.

36. (new):   The user's request reflecting system as set forth in claim 11, wherein the personal information of the specific user is age, sex and residence of the specific user.

37. (new):   The user's request reflecting system as set forth in claim 17, wherein the personal information of the specific user is age, sex and residence of the specific user.

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REMARKS

I.   Formal Matters

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9-11, 17, 23 and 27-37 are all the claims pending in the application. By

this amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 9-11, 17, 23 and 27-29. Applicant also cancels

claims 24-26 and adds new claims 30-37. Ample support for the newly added claims can be

found throughout the specification.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the receipt of priority documents

submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d).

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courteous telephonic interview on March 13, 2007.

An Examiner's Interview Summary Record (PTO-413) was provided to the Applicant on March

16, 2007. The PTO-413 requires Applicant to file a Statement of Substance of the Interview.

The Statement of Substance of the Interview is as follows:

During the interview, claims 1, 9, 27 and 28 were discussed in view of Berger U.S. Pat.

No. 6,414,693. Specifically, with regard to claim 1, the Examiner broadly interprets the term

"attribute of a user" to include the name, or identity, of the user. As such, the Examiner asserts

that a user's identity is "inherently associated" with the user's order, which the Examiner

believes corresponds to "classifying said attached correction data based on an attribute of the

user" of claim 1. The Examiner suggested several possible amendments.

With regard to claim 9, the Examiner mentioned a possible § 112 problem and stated that claim 9, if amended with regard to the § 112 problem, would require further search and consideration to determine patentability.

II.   Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 27 has been amended to correspond to amended claim 1. As such, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection of claim 27 is now moot.

With regard to claim 9, claim 9 has been amended as requested by the Examiner in the telephonic interview of March 13, 2007.

III.   Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 9-11, 17 and 23-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Berger et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,414,693). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The Examiner, in the Interview of March 13, 2007 stated that a user's identity is "inherently associated" with the user's order, which then allegedly corresponds to "classifying said attached correction data based on an attribute of the user" of claim 1.

In light of Examiner's position, claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the differences between Berger and the present invention. Applicant respectfully asserts that Berger does not teach, or even suggest, at least "receiving **an electronic submission associated with a specific user** to which said correction data and additional personal information of the specific

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user is attached ... **classifying said attached correction data based on the additional personal information of the specific user** recited in said received electronic submission and registering said correction data in said data base **based on the classification results**," as recited in claim 1.

That is, each electronic submission is associated with a specific user, and that specific user provides additional personal information, wherein the system classifies the correction data based on that additional personal information. As such, Applicant submits that the "additional personal information" cannot be interpreted as the "name, or identification, of the user" because **a specific user** is already associated with the correction data, and thus the specific user's name or identification would not need to be included in the additional personal information provided in the electronic submission.

For at least the above reason, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the prior art. As claims 2, 4, 10, 27, 28, 32 and 35 depend from claim 1 they are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1. They are also allowable because of additional limitations set forth therein.

Applicant's independent claim 11 is a method claim and is distinguished over Berger for reasons analogous to those recited for claim 1. Further, claim 29 depends from claim 11 and is therefore allowable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 11.

Applicant's independent claim 17 is an apparatus claim and is distinguished over Berger for reasons analogous to those recited with respect to claim 1.

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The Examiner further alleges that independent claim 9 is obvious under 35 U.S.C. §

103(a) in view of Berger. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Berger does not disclose or suggest all of the elements of independent claim 9. For

example, Berger does not teach or suggest at least "an information entry selecting means

allowing a user to either, **enter design information without downloading public design data,**

or request transfer of said public design data from the design data publicizing processing unit

to the user together with an editing program file," as recited in claim 9.

Instead, Berger simply allows the user to select a method of downloading public design

data, either by picking a style from a menu list, or by entering a previously determined

identifying number. There is no disclosure in Berger of an alternative to downloading the public

design data. Therefore, claim 9 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Applicant's claim 23 is a related independent server apparatus claim and is distinguished

over Berger for reasons analogous to those recited with respect to claim 9.

With regard to the rejection of claims 24-26, those claims have been canceled, thus, the

rejections pertaining to claims 24-26 are now moot.

IV.   Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant herewith petitions the Director of the USPTO to extend the time for reply to

the above-identified Office Action for an appropriate length of time if necessary. Unless a check

is attached, any fee due under 37 U.S.C. § 1.17(a) is being paid via the USPTO Electronic Filing

System (EFS). The USPTO is also directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for

the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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